

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00447 231428Z  
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 DHA-02 ARA-06 EA-07  
NEA-10 /113 W  
-----231434Z 096587 /43

R 221721Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5711  
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0447

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, MZ, RH, US  
SUBUECT: AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH MOZAMBIQUE FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: A. STATE 78517; B. MAPUTO 446 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER  
JOAQUIM CHISSANO MORNING OF APRIL 22 TO BRIEF HIM ON  
FIVE-POWER DEMARCHE TO VORSTER ON NAMIBIA AND TO RE-  
VIEW SUBSTANCE OF AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT  
MACHEL. ON OWEN'S VISIT, CHISSANO SAID THAT HE SAW  
"NO DIFFICULTIES" IN U.S. HELPING BRITAIN BRING ABOUT  
A SOLUTION TO THE RHODESIAN CONFERENCE, BUT THAT  
DECISION WHETHER USG SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN CONSTITUTIONAL  
CONFERENCE WAS ONE THAT ZIMBABWEAN LEADERS WOULD HAVE  
TO MAKE FOR THEMSELVES, HE ALSO SAID OWEN HAD LEFT  
MOZAMBICANS "UNCLEAR" ABOUT WHAT ROLE THE FRONT LINE  
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PAGE 02 MAPUTO 00447 231428Z

STATE WOULD PLAY IN THE BRITISH PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL  
CONFERENCE. CHISSANO EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN IM-  
PROVING BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH U.S., ESPECIALLY IN  
ECONOMIC FIELD.

END SUMMARY

2. AMBASSADOR AND DCM MET WITH MOZAMBIQUE FOREIGN MINISTER JOAQUIM CHISSANO FOR 30 MINUTES ON MORNING OF APRIL 20. SHARFUDINE KHAN, DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF THE AMERICAS IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS PRESENT AS NOTE TAKER. CHISSANO OPENED MEETING BY EXPRESSING HIS APOLOGIES FOR HAVING TO POSTPONE AN EARLIER MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR AND NOTING THAT HIS SCHEDULE SINCE RETURNING FROM LAST FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS MEETING IN LUANDA HAD BEEN VERY TIGHT. AMBASSADOR THANKED CHISSANO FOR OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH HIM AND SAID THAT HE HAD ORIGINALLY REQUESTED MEETING TO BRIEF HIM ON FIVE-POWER DEMARCHE TO PRIME MINISTER VORSTER ON NAMIBIA AND TO ARRANGE AN APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT MACHEL TO DELIVER A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT CARTER. AMBASSADOR THEN BRIEFLY RECAPED HIS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MACHEL THE PREVIOUS EVENING AND OUTLINED KEY ELEMENTS ON APRIL 7 WESTERN DEMARCHE TO SOUTH AFRICA ON NAMIBIA.

3. CHISSANO THANKED AMBASSADOR FOR PRESENTATION, EXPLAINED THAT IT WAS GOOD AMBASSADOR HAD SPOKEN WITH MACHEL ABOUT THESE ISSUES AND THEN OPENED UP A DISCUSSION RECENTLY CONCLUDED VISIT BY BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY DAVID OWEN. CHISSANO SAID OWEN HAD LEFT MOZAMBIKANS "UNCLEAR" AND "UNCERTAIN" ABOUT WHAT ROLE THE FRONT LINE STATES WOULD PLAY IN BRITAIN'S PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE ON RHODESIA. HE ALSO SAID THAT OWEN HAD TOLD HIM (AND MACHEL) THAT THE U.S. WOULD CO-SPONSOR CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE BUT THAT HE HAD SUBSEQUENTLY READ THAT THE U.S. WOULD CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MAPUTO 00447 231428Z

AS CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE CONFERENCE AS WELL. AMBASSADOR ACKNOWLEDGED THAT USG HAD AGREED TO CO-SPONSOR THE CONFERENCE, BUT THAT AS FAR AS HE WAS AWARE, ONLY UK (POSSIBLY OWEN) WOULD CHAIR THE CONFERENCE. ACCORDING CHISSANO, OWEN MADE IT QUITE CLEAR TO PRESIDENT MACHEL THAT BRITAIN WOULD NOT GO TO CONFERENCE TABLE IF U.S. DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN CONFERENCE. AMBASSADOR THEN ASKED CHISSANO WHAT MOZAMBIQUE'S ATTITUDE TOWARD U.S. PARTICIPATION WAS IN LIGHT OF OBJECTIONS VOICED IN LUSAKA BY MUGABE AND NKOMO TO U.S. PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCE. CHISSANO SAID HE HAD SEEN THE NKOMO-MUGABE STATEMENT BUT COULD NOT SPEAK FOR THEM. "WE CANNOT FORCE THEM" TO PARTICIPATE IN A CONFERENCE OR DICTATE THEIR VIEWS. "IT IS THEIR BUSINESS TO ACCEPT OR NOT TO ACCEPT" U. S. PARTICIPATION. AS FOR MOZAMBIQUE, "WE WANT BRITAIN TO TAKE THE APPROPRIATE STEPS AND IF BRITAIN FEELS MORE SECURE WITH THE U.S. INVOLVED, WE SEE NO DIFFICULTIES IN THIS." THEN JOKINGLY, CHISSANO SAID THAT "IF THERE IS ANOTHER FAILURE AT THE CONFERENCE TABLE, WE HOPE BRITAIN WILL COME AND JOIN

US IN THE ARMED STRUGGLE." HE NOTED THAT HE WOULD BE SEEING MUGABE AND NKOMO DURING THE NEXT TEN DAYS OR SO AND IMPLIED HE MIGHT BE CONVEYING GPRM'S VIEWS ON CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION TO THEM AT THAT TIME.

4. BEFORE CONCLUDING MEETING, CHISSANO TURNED TO BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN MOZAMBIQUE AND THE U.S. FOLLOWING FRELIMO'S THIRD PARTY CONGRESS, HE SAID, MOZAMBIQUE HAD NOW ESTABLISHED ITS ECONOMIC PRIORITIES AND THAT PRESIDENT MACHEL HAD SUGGESTED THAT HE(MACHEL) SHOULD GET TOGETHER WITH THE AMBASSADOR TO DISCUSS SOME ECONOMIC PROJECTS THAT MIGHT BE OF INTEREST TO THE USG OR AMERICAN COMPANIES. CHISSANO HOPED AT SOME FUTURE DATE TO BE ABLE TO ARRANGE A MEETING BETWEEN EMBASSY OFFICIALS AND SEVERAL MOZAMBIKAN MINISTRIES TO DISCUSS A NUMBER OF "NOT SO SMALL PROJECTS."

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 MAPUTO 00447 231428Z

5. COMMENT: MEETING WITH CHISSANO, LIKE THAT WITH MACHEL PREVIOUS EVENING WAS RELAXED AND FRIENDLY. ALTHOUGH CHISSANO DID NOT EXPLICITLY SAY SO, IT WAS CLEAR FROM HIS REMARKS THAT MOZAMBIQUE WAS NOT OPPOSED PER SE TO U. S. PARTICIPATION IN A CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE IF THE BRITISH THOUGHT THAT AN AMERICAN PRESENCE IMPROVED THE CONFERENCE'S CHANCES OF SUCCESS. AT SAME TIME, IT UNLIKELY GPRM WILL LEAN ON MUGABE OR NKOMO TO ACQUIESCE IN AMERICAN PARTICIPATION IF THEY ADAMANTLY OPPOSED.

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## Message Attributes

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